

Message Text

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INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: SYG LUNS' VISIT TO WASHINGTON

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

1. DURING COURSE OF HIS TWO DAY STAY IN WASHINGTON, SYG LUNS HAD FULL OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY HIS CONCERN AND THAT OF OTHER ALLIES WITH DANGER TO ALLIANCE OF CONTINUED US EMBARGO ON MILITARY SHIPMENTS TO TURKEY. LUNS MET WITH PRESIDENT FORD, SECRETARIES KISSINGER AND SCHLESINGER AND OTHER SENIOR DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIALS. THROUGH CLOSE COOPERATION OF KEY REPRESENTATIVES, LUNS MET WITH BIPARTISAN GROUP OF HOUSE MEMBERS. LUNS MET SEPARATELY WITH SPEAKER CARL ALBERT AND MEMBERS OF HOUSE LEADERSHIP. LUNS ORGANIZED A MEETING WITH WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENTS

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ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

2. IN HIS CONTACTS, AND ESPECIALLY WITH THE PRESS AND CONGRESS, LUNS TOOK CARE TO STRESS THAT HE WAS IN WASHINGTON ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY, BUT WITH THE SUPPORT

OF THE ALLIES, AND THAT GREECE HAD NOT OBJECTED TO HIS MISSION. HE ARGUED INTER ALIA THAT THROUGH THE IMPOSITION OF AN EMBARGO, THE US WAS ALLOWING THE CYPRUS DISPUTE TO BRING ABOUT IRREPARABLE DAMAGE TO NATO'S SOUTHERN FLANK.

3. ON THURSDAY MORNING, LUNS MET A GROUP OF 25 CONGRESSMEN FOR AN HOUR'S DISCUSSION. THE MEETING WAS ORGANIZED JOINTLY BY CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, THOMAS MORGAN, BY MINORITY LEADER AND BY CONGRESSMEN RYAN AND BUCHANAN; IT WAS CHAIRED BY WAYNE HAYS. THE ATTENDEES WERE PRIMARILY CONGRESSMEN WHO HAD VOTED TO CONTINUE THE ARMS EMBARGO IN JULY; MOST WERE RELATIVELY JUNIOR. THERE WAS AN EVEN MIX BETWEEN DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS.

4. LUNS' PRESENTATION STRESSED THE PROBLEMS TO NATO AND WESTERN DEFENSE CAUSED BY CONTINUING GREEK-TURKISH TENSIONS. HE POINTED TO PROBLEMS IN THE AEGEAN, IN COMMUNICATIONS, IN AIR ROUTINGS AND IN RUNNING NATO EXERCISES. HE ALSO DECRIED THE LOSS TO THE US AND NATO OF US INTELLIGENCE AND OTHER FACILITIES IN TURKEY. FINALLY, LUNS CALLED THE MAINTENANCE OF THE TURKISH EMBARGO COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO ANY SEARCH FOR A SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS.

5. THE CONGRESSMEN QUESTIONED LUNS CLOSELY ABOUT THE ATTITUDE OF INDIVIDUAL NATO ALLIES TOWARD THE EMBARGO. LUNS SAID ALL WESTERN EUROPE COUNTRIES THOUGHT THE EMBARGO A MISTAKE, WHICH SERVED TO UNDERMINE WESTERN SECURITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. HE MADE CLEAR, AT THE SAME TIME, THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT DID NOT OPPOSE THE EMBARGO, AND IN ANY EVENT COULD NOT ADVOCATE ITS BEING LIFTED WITHOUT PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF THE GREEK DOMESTIC OPPOSITION, AN OPPOSITION THAT WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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OFTEN ANTI-US IN ORIENTATION.

6. FOLLOWING THE ONE HOUR MEETING, LUNS WAS RECEIVED BY SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE ALBERT. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE DEPUTY DEMOCRATIC WHIPS PRICE, MCFALL AND JONES. ALL FOUR CONGRESSMEN SUPPORTED THE ADMINISTRATION EFFORT TO LIFT THE EMBARGO, AND THEREFORE LUNS STRESSED TO THEM THE REASONS WHY EARLY ACTION WAS NEEDED. IN

RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, LUNS SAID HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT
BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN A SIGNAL FROM THE ISRAELI

GOVERNMENT THAT IT OPPOSED THE EMBARGO. LUNS UNDERTOOK
TO EXPLORE THIS POSSIBILITY HIMSELF. KISSINGER

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